

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/533,762

Examiner

Peng Ke

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/30/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 6, 11 and 12.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Kristine Kincaid
KRISTINE KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Bob Webster on 9/15/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a menu screen on a video display apparatus, the menu screen comprising a menu level having a plurality of menus, each of which are displayed in a first color, wherein selecting a first menu from the plurality of menus causes a first lower menu level to be generated, the selected first menu and the first lower menu level being displayed in a second color that is different from the first color, and selecting a second menu from the first lower menu level causes a second lower menu level to be generated, the selected second menu and the second lower menu level is being displayed in a third color that is different from the first and second colors;

wherein the menus and menu levels are displayed using blocks, and the selected first and second menus and the corresponding first and second lower menu levels are displayed on a different block from other menus and menu levels; and

wherein each of the blocks is displayed three-dimensionally so as to show its height.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a menu screen on a video display apparatus, the menu screen comprising a menu level having a plurality of menus, each of which are displayed in a first ~~manner~~ color or shade, wherein selecting a first menu from the plurality of menus causes a first lower menu level to be generated, the selected first menu and first lower menu level being displayed on the menu screen in a second ~~manner~~ color or shade that is different from the first ~~manner~~ color or shade, and selecting a second menu from the first lower menu level causes a second lower menu level to be generated, the selected second menu and the second lower menu level being displayed in a third ~~manner~~ color or shade that is different from the first and second ~~manner~~ color or shade;

wherein the menus and menu levels are displayed using blocks, and the selected first and second menus and the corresponding first and second lower menu levels are displayed on a different block from other menus and menu levels; and

wherein each of the blocks is displayed three-dimensionally so as to show its height.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a menu screen on a video display apparatus, the menu screen comprising a menu level having a

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plurality of menus, each of which are displayed in a first ~~manner~~ color or shade, wherein selecting a first menu from the plurality of menus causes a first lower menu level to be generated, the selected first menu and the first lower menu level being displayed in a second ~~manner~~ color or shade that is different from the first ~~manner~~ color or shade, and selecting a second menu from the first lower menu level causes a second lower menu level to be generated, the selected second menu and the second lower menu level being displayed in a third ~~manner~~ color or shade that is different from the first and second ~~manner~~ color or shade;

wherein the menus and menu levels are displayed using blocks, and the selected first and second menus and the corresponding first and second lower menu levels are displayed on a different block from other menus and menu levels; and

wherein each of the blocks is displayed three-dimensionally so as to show its height.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a menu screen on a video display apparatus, the menu screen comprising a menu level having a plurality of menus, each of which are displayed in a first ~~manner~~ color or shade, wherein selecting a first menu from the plurality of menus causes a first lower menu level to be generated, the selected first menu and the first lower menu level being displayed in a second ~~manner~~ color or shade that is different

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from the first ~~manner~~ color or shade, and selecting a second menu from the first lower menu level causes a second lower menu level to be generated, the selected second menu is being displayed in a third ~~manner~~ color or shade that is different from the second ~~manner~~ color or shade;

wherein the menus and menu levels are displayed using blocks, and the selected first and second menus and the corresponding first and second lower menu levels are displayed on a different block from other menus and menu levels; and

wherein each of the blocks is displayed three-dimensionally so as to show its height.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the menus and menu levels are displayed using different shadings, and the selected first and second menus and the corresponding first and second lower menu levels are displayed using a shading that is different from the shadings of the other menus and menu levels.

7-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the menus and menu levels are displayed using different shadings, and the selected first and second menus and the corresponding first and second lower

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menu levels are displayed using a shading that is different from the shadings of the other menus and menu levels.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein the menus and menu levels are displayed using different shadings, and the selected first and second menus and the corresponding first and second lower menu levels are displayed using a shading that is different from the shadings of the other menus and menu levels.

13-17. (Canceled)

Reason for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior arts fail to show individually or in combination a set of menu wherein selecting a first menu from the plurality of menus causes a first lower menu level to be generated, the selected first menu and the first lower menu level being displayed in a second color that is different from the first color,

wherein the menus and menu levels are displayed using blocks, and the selected first and second menus and the corresponding first and second lower menu levels are displayed on a different block from other menus and menu levels; and

wherein each of the blocks is displayed three-dimensionally so as to show its height.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peng Ke whose telephone number is (571) 272-4062. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and Alternate Fridays 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on (571) 272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Peng Ke